

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling a machine (10, 11, 12) to pick up an item (2) from a first position (3) and place the item in a second position (4a, 4b, 4c), wherein a sensor member (7) provides data on said first position (3) to a control member (40), characterised by the method comprising:

sending a message (61) from a master process of the control member (40) comprising one or more said first positions to all said machines (10, 11, 12) controlled by said control member, and

sending a message (62) from said control member to all said machines (10, 11, 12) with an indicator member specifying which of the one or more said first positions (3) shall be used.

2. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, characterised by further comprising:

receiving a message (65) from a said machine (10, 11, 12) with a status that a said first position (3) has been used, and

sending a message comprising the said first position (3), or more said first positions, to all machines (10, 11, 12) controlled by the control member (40) in which message each said first position is marked with a status of used or not.

3. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, further comprising: or 2,

~~characterised by~~

receiving at a said machine (10, 11, 12) the message comprising one or more said first positions,

handling one of the one or more of said first positions, and

sending a message to the control member (40) comprising the information that a such said first position has been used.

4. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by~~ further comprising:

updating in said control member (40) the marker of the one said first position to read used, and

sending from the control member (40) to all machines (10, 11, 12) a message that the status of the said first position consumed is equal to used.

5. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by~~ further comprising:

~~a control member~~ (40) selecting (73, 85) with a control member one or more specific said first positions to be handled by a specific machine (10, 11, 12).

6. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the control member (40) uses a algorithm to select a said first position to be handled by one specific machine of all machines (10, 11, 12).

7. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the control member (40) carries out a repeated triggering of a first position.

8. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by~~ further
comprising:

registering said first position (3) of the item together with a unique identity member, and
marking each said first position with a status of used or not.

9. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 8, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the unique identity member takes the form of a number.

10. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the unique identity member takes the form of an alphanumeric string.

11. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by~~ further
comprising:

allocating a said first position to a specific machine dependent on load balancing for a
plurality of machines (10, 11, 12) controlled by the control member (40).

12. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 11, ~~characterised by~~ further
comprising:

allocating a said first position to a specific machine dependent on load balancing for all
of the machines controlled by the control member (40).

13. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by further comprising:~~

allocating a said first position to a specific machine dependent on a stoppage that has occurred in a work group controlled by the control member (40).

14. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised by further comprising:~~

allocating a said first position to a specific machine dependent on the removal from service of another specific machine in the work group controlled by the control member (40).

15. (currently amended) A system for controlling a machine to pick up an item from a first position and place the item in a second position, the system comprising:

a sensor member (7, 8),

a plurality of machine members (10, 11, 12) to pick up an item (2) from a first position (3) and place it in a second position (4a, 4b, 4c), and

a control member (40) to control said plurality of machines (10, 11, 12), ~~characterised in that the control member (40) is connected to and comprising a list of all said first positions, and~~

~~at least one machine control member (41a, 41b, 41c) for one of said plurality of machines (10, 11, 12), to which the control member (40) is connected comprises a list of all said first positions.~~

16. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 15, ~~characterised in that~~

wherein the control member (40) further comprises computer program elements to change the status of a said first position on the list of all said first positions.

17. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 15, characterised in that wherein each of the at least one machine controller members (41a, 41b, 41e) connected to the control member comprises computer program elements to change the status of a said first position on its list of all said first positions.

18. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 17, characterised in that wherein the at least one machine controller member (41a, 41b, 41e) comprises computer program elements to update the status of a said first position on its list of all said first positions on receipt of a message from the control member (40).

19. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 18, characterised in that wherein the at least one machine controller member (41a, 41b, 41e) comprises computer program elements to send a message to the control member (40) when a said first position has been handled.

20. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 15, characterised in that wherein each first position of all said first positions on the list are recorded together with a unique identifier member.

21. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 20, characterised by further

comprising:

a ~~synchronisation~~ synchronization member that provides a signal suitable for a any of the machines (10, 11, 12) to base a trigger action on.

22. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 15, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein at least one said sensor member (7, 8) comprises a non-optical detector.

23. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 15, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein at least one said sensor member (7, 8) comprises a vision or optical detection member.

24. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the at least one said sensor member (7, 8) comprises a photocell.

25. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the at least one said sensor member (7, 8) comprises a camera and an image processing member.

26. (currently amended) A The system according to claim 25, ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the image processing member comprises computer program elements arranged for image recognition.

27. (currently amended) A computer program comprising computer code means and/or software code portions which when loaded into a computer or processor will make the computer

or processor perform the steps of a method according to ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1.

28. (currently amended) A The computer program product according to claim 27 comprised in one or more computer readable media.

29. (currently amended) A computer data signal for control and/or monitoring of a plurality of machines (~~10, 11, 12~~) arranged to move items from a first place to a second place, embodied in a carrier wave, ~~characterised by~~ comprising:

a list of first positions (3) for a plurality of items (2).

30. (currently amended) A The computer data signal according to claim 29, characterised in that said computer data signal comprises markers to show if a given first position (3) has been consumed, handled, or not.

31. (currently amended) A The computer data signal according to claim 30, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said computer data signal comprises at least one indicator to which machine or pick and place machine shall handle a given first position (3).

32. (currently amended) A The computer data signal according to claim 29, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said computer data signal is communicated in part by means of any of the list of: half or full duplex TCP/IP, Ethernet, a fieldbus, Profibus, Modbus, CAN, FF or similar.

33. (currently amended) A The computer data signal according to claim 29,
~~characterised in that wherein~~ said computer data signal is communicated by a short range wireless member according to a standard such as any of: Bluetooth, WLAN, 11032.

34. (currently amended) A The computer data signal according to claim 29,
~~characterised in that wherein~~ said computer data signal is communicated by means of a short call-back procedure over an ordinary Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), a wireless telephone system, a privately switched network, cellular network or satellite based telephone network.

35. (currently amended) A graphical user interface of a computing device for controlling a machine (10, 11, 12) to pick up an item (2) from a first position (3) and place the item in a second position (4a, 4b, 4c) ~~characterised by the graphical user interface comprising:~~
at least one representation member for carrying out a method according to ~~any of claims 1–14~~ claim 1.

36. (currently amended) A The graphical user interface according to claim 35,
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the GUI comprises software object representation members (108, 109, 110, 111) to configure any of a plurality of machines (10, 11, 12) as any from the list of:
a work group (108) for adaptive moving of objects (3) by the machines (10, 11, 12);
a Distribution (118, 119) of machines (10, 11, 12) arranged according to identity of object handled;

an Order in which the objects shall reach the machines (10, 11, 12) expressed as

WorkAreas (110, 111);

a load balancing group (132, 133, 134) in which loads are balanced among any of the machines (10, 11, 12).

37. (currently amended) A The graphical user interface according to claim 36,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein configurations are arranged so as to be displayed and/or edited upon activation a part of the graphical representation of one or more production areas comprising one or more machines (10, 11, 12) by means of a computer mouse, a keyboard, a keypad, touch screen, stylus or any other similar computer display selection means.

38. (currently amended) A The graphical user interface according to ~~any of claims 35-37, characterised in that~~ claim 35, wherein one or more machines (10, 11, 12) may be configured to pick up an object from a first position and place the object in a second position by means of carrying out a drag and drop operation on a software object representation member (110, 111).